Russian Policy towards India

1591. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the official break-up of Soviet Union different independent nations have formed Soviet Commonwealth;

(b) if so, what is their policy towards India; whether previous policies are being continued; and

(c) what is the fate of the scheme in the field of Defence, Finance and other various welfare activities after the break-up of Soviet States who is going to fulfill their earlier commitments towards India and what measures Government propose to take if former Soviet Nations refuse to keep their earlier commitments?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. 11 of the Republics of the former USSR have formed the commonwealth of Independent States.

(b) and (c) Member—States of the commonwealth of Independent States have in their Declaration at Head of State level on 21 Dec., 1991 guaranteed, in accordance with their constitutional procedures, the fulfilment of International obligations stemming from the Treaties and Agreements of the former USSR.

Enquiry into malfunctioning of Indian Council of World Affairs

1592. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint about alleged malfunctioning and other irregularities in Indian Council of World Affairs, Sapru House, New Delhi has been received by the Government from I.C.W.A. Employees Union, New Delhi;

(b) whether any enquiry has been ordered into the allegations, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether enquiry has been completed; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Simplification of Rules for issuing passports

1593. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have simplified the rules for issue of passport;

(b) if so, the details of said rules and regulations;

(c) whether complaints against non-compliance of said rules and regulation have come; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to avoid violation of rules?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Government have simplified administrative procedures for issue of passports which are given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.